

The Democratic Pioneer.

TRUTH, JUSTICE AND THE CONSTITUTION.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1855.

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BY L. D. STARKE.

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L. D. STARKE,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Office corner of Main and Road street.

POETRY.

SONG.

BY W. C. RYAN.

Oh! thouilly ask to hear
Of what gentle seasons
When the tenderest reasons
They give their faith too oft
To the careless wooer,
Whose hearts are always soft:
Would that men's were truer!

Oh! the fair one, when around
Early birds are singing;
When over all the fragrant ground,
Early birds are springing;
By the brookside bank and grove,
With blossoms laden,
With beauty, breathe of love—
Oh! the timid maiden.

Oh! when, with rosy blush,
Summer eve is sinking;
On hills that softly gush,
The rays are softly winking;
Through boughs that knit the
Shower,
Moonlight gleams are stealing;
When fill the gentle hour,
Take the gentle feeling.

Oh! when autumnal dyes
Tinge the woolly mountain;
In the drooping foliage lies
The scene that tells how fast
The scene is passing over,
Summer, ere her bloom is past,
To secure her lover.

Oh! when the North winds call
To the lattice nightly;
Within the cheerful hall,
How the lights brightly
In the wintry tempest round,
Keep the landscape hoary,
Sleep in her ear shall sound
Love's delightful story.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CAVALRY OFFICER.

OR

THE WHITE SATIN DOMINO.

BY LIEUTENANT MURRAY.

THE period of Napoleon's career when
zeal, is full of romantic adventures
connected with the history of the offi-
cers that served under the great cap-
tain. He was quick to observe merit and
to reward it, and this it was that
his followers so devoted to him, and
wished to distinguish themselves by
his battle, and strict military con-
duct in the Emperor's service.

Colonel Eugene Merville was an attaché
of Napoleon's staff. He was a soldier in
the sense of the word—devoted to his
duty, and brave as a lion. Though
handsome, and of fine bearing, he
was of humble birth—a mere child of
the people, and had followed the drum and
bugle boyhood. Every step in the line
of promotion had been won by the stroke of
his sword, and his last promotion from ma-
jor to colonel was for a gallant deed which
he performed on the battle field beneath
the French eagle.

One day, during the campaign in Spain,
Colonel Merville found himself at the head
of a detachment of the French army. He
was in the thick of the fight, when he
saw a young man, who he had never be-
fore seen, fighting with the gay-
ety of a child, and with the coolness of
a veteran. He was in the thick of the
fight, and his sword was flashing in
the air. He was in the thick of the
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in the air.

'You would perhaps be disappointed.'

'No, I am sure not.'

'Are you confident?'

'Yes, I feel that you are beautiful.'

It cannot be otherwise.'

'Don't be too sure of that,' said the

domino. 'Have you never heard of the

prophet Khorassan—how, when he dis-

closed his countenance, his hideous aspect

killed his beloved one? How do you

know I shall not turn out a veiled prophet

of Khorassan?'

'Ah, lady, your every word convinces

me to the contrary,' replied the enraptured

soldier whose heart began to feel as it had

never felt before—he was already in love.

He permitted him to hand her to her car-

riage, which drives off in the darkness,

and though he throws himself upon his

fleetest horse, he is unable to overtake her.

The young French colonel becomes moody;

he has lost his heart; and knows not

what to do. He wanders listless and dith-

er, shuns his former amusement, avoids

his military companions; and in short is

as miserable as a lover will be, thus dis-

appointed. One night just after he had

left his hotel, on foot, a figure muffled in

the very cars stopped him.

'Well, monsieur, what would you have

with me?' asked the soldier.

'You would know the name of the

white domino? was the reply.

'I would, indeed,' replied the officer,

hastily. 'How can it be done?'

'Follow me.'

'To the end of the earth if it will bring

me to her.'

'But you must be blindfolded.'

'Very well.'

'I am at your command.'

And away rattled the young soldier and

his strange companion.

'This may be a trick,' reasoned Eugé-

ne Merville, 'but I have no fears of

personal violence. I am armed with a

trusty sword, and can take care of myself.'

But there was no cause for fear, since

he soon found the vehicle had stopped,

and he was led blindfold into the house.

When the bandage was removed from his

eyes he found himself in a richly furnished

bedroom, and before him stood the domi-

no, just as he had met her in the masked ball.

To fall upon his knees and tell her how

much he thought of her since their parting,

that his thoughts had never left her, and

that he loved her devotedly, was as natu-

ral as a breath, and he did so most

gallantly and sincerely.

'Shall I believe all you say?'

'Lady, let me prove it by any test you

may put upon me.'

'Know then that the feelings you avow

are natural. Nay, unlove your arm from

my waist. I have something more to say.'

'Talk on forever, lady; your voice is

music to my heart and ears.'

'Would you marry me, knowing no

more of me than you now do?'

'Yes, if you were to go to the very al-

tar marked,' he replied.

'Then I will test you.'

'How, lady?'

'For one year be faithful to the love

you have professed, and I will be yours—

as truly as Heaven shall spare my life.'

'O cruel, cruel suspense!'

'You demand.'

'Nay, lady, I shall fulfill your injunc-

tions as I promised.'

'If at the expiration of a year you do

not hear from me, then the contract shall

be null and void. 'Take this ring,' she

continued, 'and when I supply the broken

portion I will be yours.'

He kissed the little emblem, swore again

and again to be faithful, and pressing her

ise? asked the domino, as they retired into

a neighboring saloon.

'Most truly in act, but also, I fear not

in heart.'

'Indeed.'

'It is too true, lady, that I have seen

and loved another, though my vow to you

has kept me from saying so to her.'

'And who is this that you thus loved?'

'I will be frank with you, and you will

keep my secret?'

'It is the Baroness Von Waldorff,' he

said, with a sigh.

'And you really love her?'

'Alas, too dearly,' said the soldier sadly.

Nevertheless, I must hold you to your

promise; here is the other half of the ring:

can you produce its mate?'

'Here it is,' said Eugene Merville.

'Then, I too keep my promise!' said the

domino, raising the mask, and showing to

his astonished view the face of the Baro-

ness Von Waldorff!

'Ah, it was the sympathy of true love

that attached me after all,' exclaimed the

young soldier as he pressed her to his

heart.

She had seen and loved him for his man-

ly spirit, and having found by inquiry

that he was worthy of her love, she had

managed this delicate intrigue and had

loved him, and now gave him her wealth,

and everything!

They were married with great pomp,

and accompanied the archduchess to Paris.

Napoleon to crown the happiness of his

favorite, made Col. Merville at once Gen-

eral of division.—Gleaner.

THE LAZY MAN'S PARADISE.

In Lieut Giddon's account of his explora-

tion of the valley of the Amazon, or rather

of one of its main branches, the Madera

river, (executive document No. 36) from

the Pacific side, we find the following

account of the daily life of a Creole family

in the town of Santa Cruz, the capital of

the Bolivian department of that name.—

For a lazy man, Santa Cruz de Bolivia

must be a perfect paradise, to say nothing

of the chance a bachelor has of being able

to choose a partner in a city where there

are five women to one man.

Very early in the morning the Creole

getting out of bed, throws himself upon a

hamock; his wife stretches herself upon a

bench near by, while the children seat them-

selves with their legs under them on the

chairs all in their night dresses. The In-

dian servant girl enters with a cup of cho-

colate for each member of the family.—

After which she brings some coals of fire in

a silver dish. The wife lights her husband

a cigar, then one for herself. Some time

is spent reclining, chatting and rega-

lating. The man slowly puts on his cotton

trousers, wooden coat, leather shoes, and

violin hat, with his neck exposed to the

fresh air,—silk handkerchiefs are scarce,

—He walks to some neighbor's, with whom

he again drinks chocolate and smokes an-

other cigar.

At mid-day a small low table is set in

the middle of the room and the family go

to breakfast. The wife sits next to her

husband; the women are very pretty, and

affectionate to their husbands. He chooses

her from among five, there being about

that number of women to one man in the

town. The children seat themselves, and

the dogs form a ring behind. The first

dish is a chupe of potatoes with large pieces

of meat. The man helps himself first, and

throws his bones straight across the table;

a child dodges his head to give it free pas-

sage, and the dogs rush after it as it falls

upon the ground floor. A child then throws

alone, the mother dodges, and the dogs

A NIGHT AT THE GAMING TABLE.

AN EPISODE OF REAL LIFE.

In 185—, a party were seated around a

table in the social hall of a steamboat on

the Mississippi, playing cards. They had

played from about 9 o'clock in the evening

til near midnight. The party consisted

of four persons two of whom were notori-

ous gamblers, and the other two were

frank, unsuspecting countrymen who had

been to New Orleans to dispose of produce

and were returning home. At near mid-

night, one of the countrymen arose from

the table, saying to his partner,

'Luck's against us Bob? Might as

well try to beat the devil himself as these

fellows?'

'Oh, for God's sake don't quit yet!

Give me some chance to get back my

money.'

'No use Bob, I'm nigh busted! Pre-

tty near clean swept out.'

Despair seemed written on every line-

ament of Bob's features, when he found

that he could not persuade his friend to

play.

At last he said to several who had been

watching the game, 'won't some of you

gentlemen take my partner's place?'

There was a pause for a few moments,

then a young man scarcely one-and-twenty,

took the vacant seat, saying:

'If you have no objections, I'll try my

hand.'

'Agreed!' was the reply.

'Here, bar keeper, give us another

pack of cards, said the young man.

Another pack was brought; the stranger

opened them and handed them back,

saying:

'I want a pack of another color. These

are the same color as those they have been

playing with. We might as well change

the color, just for luck.'

The gamblers exchanged glances.

Another pack was brought; the game

commenced, and the gamblers won. Bob

grew uneasy.

'Come, let's double the stakes!' said the

stranger whose turn it was to deal.

'Just as you like,' said the gam-

blers.

The stakes were doubled and the stranger

and his partner won. A gleam of

sunshine illuminated Bob's countenance.

Another game was played, Bob and his

partner were again successful. The stakes

increased—the gamblers lost.

'Bar-keeper, bring us another pack of

cards of another color from these,' said

the stranger who was about to deal.

One of the gamblers looked at his part-

ner while a dark frown overspread his

features.

WORD.

...ing through my brain,
...to bid it stay;
...other things had passed away;
...no meaning more than all
...in an idle hour I heard,
...when first the sound I heard,
A lightly uttered, careless word.

That word—O! it doth haunt me now,
In scenes of joy, in scenes of woe;
By night, by day, in sun or shade,
With the half smile that gently play'd
Reproachfully, and gave the sound
Of power through fire to wound.
There is no voice I ever heard
So deeply fix'd as that one word.

When in the laughing crowd some tone,
Like those whose joyous sound is gone,
Strikes on my ear, I shrink—for then
The careless word comes back again.
When all alone I sit and gaze
Upon the cheerful home-fire blaze,
Lo! freshly, as when first 'twas heard,
Returns that lightly uttered word.

When dreams bring back the days of old,
With all that wishes could not hold;
And from my feverish couch I start
To press a shadow to my heart—
Amid its beating echoes clear,
That little word I seem to hear;
In vain I say, while it is heard,
Why weep?—'twas but a foolish word.

It comes—and with it come the tears,
The hopes, the joys of former years;
Forgotten smiles, forgotten looks,
Thick as dead leaves on autumn brooks,
And all as joyless, though they were
The brightest things life's spring could
share.

O! would to God I ne'er had heard
That lightly uttered careless word!

PROOF THAT A MAN IS DEAD.

A subscriber to one of the Eastern pa-
pers, a few years ago, being sadly in ar-
rears for the same, promised the editor,
that if his life was spared to a certain day,
he would without fail discharge the bill.
The day passed and the bill was not paid.
The natural conclusion therefore was, that
the man was dead—absolutely defunct.
Proceeding on this conclusion, the editor
in his next paper, placed the name of the
delinquent under his obituary head, with
the attending circumstances of time and
place. Pretty soon after this announcement,
the subject of it appeared to the editor—
not with the pale and ghastly counte-
enance usually ascribed to apparitions,
but a face as red as scarlet. Neither did
it, like other apparitions wait to be spoken
to, but broke silence—What, sir, did you
mean by publishing my death?—Why, sir,
the same that I mean when I publish the
death of any other person—viz: to let
the world know that you were dead.

Well, but I am not dead," you told me
then it was your own fault, for you told me
you would positively pay your bill by such
a day, if you lived till that time. The
day is passed, the bill is not paid, and you
positively must be dead—for I will not be-
lieve you would forgo your word—O no,
I see you have got around me, Mr.
Editor—but say no more about it—here's
the money. And, hark, you were just
contradicting my death next week, will you?

"O certainly," sir, just to please you—
though upon my word I can't help from
thinking you dead at the time specified,
and that you have merely come back to
pay this bill on account of your friendship
for me.

A PEZZLED YANKEE.—Quillip told a
good story of a man on a Mississippi steam-
er, who was questioned by a Yankee.—
The gentleman, to humor the fellow, an-
swered all his questions straight forwardly
until the Down Easter was fairly puzzled
on an interrogatory. At last he inquired—
"Look here, squire, where was you
born?"

"I was born," said the victim, "in Boston,
Tremont street, No. 41, on the first day
of August, 1825, at five o'clock in the after-
noon."

Yankee was answered completely. For
an instant he was stuck. Soon, however,
his face brightened, and he quickly said—
"Yas, well, I calculate you don't recol-
lect whether it was a frame house or a brick
house, do ye?"

GRANT'S PATENT PREMIUM GRAIN CRADLES.

These Cradles are sold in this city
for the superior Cradles. Farmers in
want of a good cradle, can safely rely on strong
and substantial, as well as light and easy cutting
implements. The fingers are bent from young
white oak and hickory, and have set screws for
adjusting the fingers to the sheath. By this ar-
rangement they can be made to cut in less than a min-
ute, and no danger of losing wedges, &c., which
are generally used on the common cradles. Each
finger has a separate wire running through the
sheath, making it strong and independent of the
other. We can send you a cradle on terms
being the best CRADLE ever offered to the pub-
lic. We have been selling them for two seasons
past, and our sales are increasing each year to a
considerable extent. Our supply for the ensu-
ing season will be received direct from the man-
ufacturer, and all orders (which should be
sent in early) will be filled at low prices.

The BLADES attached to these Cradles are
made expressly for them, under his supervision,
so that they will not lose their reputation
by a inferior Blade.

Price for 5 Fingers \$5 00
" " " " " 5 25
Wheat and Oats
Orders directed to us, will be filled
promptly. When six or more cradles are wan-
ted for any one order, a discount in price is
made.

Manufacturers and dealers in
Agricultural Implements and Iron,
No. 11, Water Street, Norfolk, Va.
my 23

UNITED STATES MAIL.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
JANUARY 12, 1855.
PROPOSALS for carrying the mails of the
United States from 1st day of July, 1855,
to the 30th of June, 1856, inclusive, in the
State of NORTH CAROLINA, will be received
at the Contract Office of the Post Office De-
partment, in the city of Washington, until 3 p. m.
of 10th April, 1855, (to be decided by the 30th
April, 1855,) on the routes and in the times
herein specified.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Bidders are requested to examine carefully the in-
structions, forms of proposals, &c., attached to
this advertisement.

5634 From Williamson, by Flat Swamp and
Bethel, to Greenville, 28 miles and
back, once a week.
Leave Williamson Wednesday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Greenville same day at 5 p m;
Leave Greenville Thursday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Williamson same day at 5 p m;

5635 From Woodville, by South Neck, 6
miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Woodville Monday and Friday at
10 1/2 a m;
Arrive at Durant's Neck same days by
12 m;

5636 From Greenville, by Ward's Store, to
Hamilton, 30 miles and back, once a
week.
Leave Greenville Friday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Hamilton same day at 5 p m;
Leave Hamilton Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Greenville same day at 5 p m;

5637 From Hookerstown, by Ridge Spring,
Johnson's mills, and Corville, to Green-
ville, 30 1/2 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Hookerstown Thursday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Greenville same day at 5 p m;
Leave Greenville Friday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Hookerstown same day at 5 p m;

5638 From Oconee, by Hatters, Cape, and
Kennebec, to Chickamacon, 30 miles
and back, once a week.
Bidders will state distance and schedule
of departures and arrivals.

5639 From Head of Bay River to James Potter's,
on Goose Creek Island, miles and
back, once a week.
Bidders will state distance and schedule
of departures and arrivals.

5640 From South Creek to Bay River, 9 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave South Creek Friday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Bay River same day at 11 a m;
Leave Bay River Friday at 5 a m;
Arrive at South Creek same day at 7 1/2 a m;

5641 From Currituck C. H., by Colinton and
Paw's Branch, to Powell's Point, 25
miles and back, once a week.
Leave Currituck C. H. Friday at 12 m;
Arrive at Powell's Point same day at 6 p m;

5642 From Powell's Point Saturday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Currituck C. H. same day at 2 p m;

5643 From Powell's Point, by Nags's Head, to
Roanoke Island, 30 miles and back,
once a week.
Leave Powell's Point Monday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Roanoke Island same day at 6 p m;

5644 From Roanoke Tuesday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Powell's Point same day at 6 p m;

5645 From Pungo Creek to North Creek, 9
miles and back, once a week.
Leave Pungo Creek Thursday at 12 m;
Arrive at North Creek same day at 3 p m;
Leave North Creek Thursday at 9 a m;
Arrive at Pungo Creek same day at 12 m;

5646 From Pungo Creek to North Creek, 15
miles and back, once a week.
Leave Pungo Creek Monday at 7 a m;
Arrive at North Creek same day at 12 m;
Leave North Creek Monday at 2 p m;
Arrive at Pungo Creek same day at 7 p m;

5647 From Elizabeth City, by Camden, Stith,
Indian-town, Sligo, Currituck C. H.,
Greenwood, Tull's Creek, North West
Bridge, Va., to Powell's Point, 10 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave Elizabeth City Wednesday at 5 a m;
Arrive at Powell's Point at 12 m;
Leave Powell's Point Thursday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Elizabeth City next day at 8 p m;

5648 From Newton, by Newbliss Creek, to
Elizabeth City, 35 miles and back, three
times a week.
Leave Newton Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Elizabeth City same days by
12 m;

5649 From Elizabeth City Monday, Wednes-
day, and Friday at 2 p m;
Arrive at Newton same days by 6 p m;

5650 From Middleton to Cape Hatteras, 30 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave Middleton Saturday at 11 p m;
Arrive at Cape Hatteras next day at 12 m;
Leave Cape Hatteras Sunday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Middleton next day at 11 a m;

5651 From Washington, by Kato, to
Creek, Pantego, Leechville, Sladesville,
Swan Quarter, Lake Comfort, Lake
Landing, and Middleton, to Fairfield,
12 miles and back, twice a week.
Leave Washington Thursday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Middleton next Saturday by
12 m, and at Fairfield same day by 4 p m;
Leave Fairfield Monday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Middleton same day by 12 m,
and at Washington next Wednesday by
7 p m;

5652 From Washington Saturday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Bath same day at 6 p m;
Leave Bath Saturday at 7 a m;
Arrive at Washington the same day by
12 m;

5653 From Washington to Oconee, and
thence to Portsmouth, 85 miles and
back, once a week.
Leave Washington Thursday at 5 p m;
Arrive at Oconee next Saturday at 1 p m;
Leave Oconee Saturday at 14 p m;
Arrive at Portsmouth same day at 7 p m;
Leave Portsmouth Monday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Washington next Wednesday
by 12 m.

Proposals for service twice a week by
steamboat will be considered.
5654 From Washington, by Campbell's Creek,
miles and back, once a week.
Bidders will state distance and schedule
of departures and arrivals.

5655 From Washington, by Blount's Creek,
and Durham's Creek, to South Creek,
12 miles and back, once a week.
Leave Washington Thursday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Durham's Creek same day at 2 1/2 p m;

5656 From South Creek same day at 6 p m;
Arrive at Washington Friday at 8 a m;
Leave Washington Friday at 11 a m;
Arrive at Durham's Creek same day at 12 a m;
Proposals to extend to Bay River are in-
vited.

5657 From Windsor, by Merry Hill, Ashland,
Colman, Harrellsville, and Pich Land-
ing, to Murfreesboro', 61 miles and
back, twice a week.
Leave Windsor Wednesday and Saturday
at 4 a m;
Arrive at Murfreesboro' same days by 11 p m;

5658 From Murfreesboro' Tuesday and Friday
at 4 a m;
Arrive at Windsor same days by 11 p m;

5659 From Murfreesboro', by Potomac, Wood-
land, and St. John, to Roxbury, 30 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave Murfreesboro' Thursday at 4 p m;
Arrive at Roxbury same day at 4 p m;
Leave Roxbury Friday at 11 a m;
Arrive at Murfreesboro' same day at 9 p m;

5660 From Murfreesboro' to Boykin's Depot,
15 miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Murfreesboro' Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday at 12 a m;
Arrive at Boykin's Depot same days by
3 p m;

5661 From Boykin's Depot Monday, Wednes-
day, and Friday at 12 m;
Arrive at Murfreesboro' same days by 3 p m;

Proposals for three additional trips will
be considered, to be run in connexion
with mails from Raleigh.
5662 From Plymouth, by Washington, 70
miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Plymouth Tuesday, Thursday, and
Saturday at 2 a m;
Arrive at Washington same days by 11
a m;

And at Newbern same days by 10 p m;
Leave Newbern Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Washington same days by 12 m
And at Plymouth same days by 9 p m.

5658 From Plymouth, by Bain and Scupper-
non, to Columbia, 39 miles and back,
twice a week.
Leave Plymouth Thursday and Saturday
at 7 a m;
Arrive at Columbia same days by 4 p m;
Leave Columbia Friday and Monday at
8 a m;

5659 Arrive at Plymouth same days by 6 p m;
From Columbia to Port Landing, 20 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave Columbia Friday at 6 a m;
Arrive at Port Landing same day by 12 m
Leave Port Landing Friday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Columbia same day by 7 p m

5660 From Columbia to Gum Neck, 20 miles
and back, once a week.
Leave Columbia every Friday at 8 a m;
Arrive at Gum Neck same day by 12 m;
Leave Gum Neck Friday at 1 p m;
Arrive at Columbia same day by 7 p m

5661 From Franklin Depot, by South Quay,
Gates Ferry, Winton, and Edenton, to
Elizabeth City, 40 miles and back, three
times a week.
Leave Franklin Depot Monday, Wednes-
day, and Friday at 14 p m;
Arrive at Plymouth same days by 11 p m
Leave Plymouth Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday at 11 p m;
Arrive at Franklin Depot next days by 10
a m.

Proposals for three additional weekly
trips are invited.
5662 From Gatesville to Gates Ferry, 3 miles
and back, three times a week.
Leave Gatesville Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday at 12 p m;
Arrive at Gates Ferry same days by 3 p m
Leave Gates Ferry Monday, Wednesday,
and Friday, after arrival of boat from
Franklin Depot, say 5 p m;

5663 From Edenton, by Hertford, Woodville,
Elizabeth City, Hintonville, South
Mills, and Deep Creek, Va., to Norfolk,
77 miles and back, three times a week.
Leave Edenton Monday, Wednesday, and
Saturday, after the arrival of boat from
Franklin Depot, say 5 p m;
Arrive at Elizabeth City same days by 11
p m;

5664 From Elizabeth City daily, except Sun-
day, at 4 a m;
Arrive at Norfolk same days by 4 p m;
Leave Norfolk Tuesday, Thursday, and
Saturday, after the arrival of boat from
Baltimore, say 10 a m;
Arrive at Edenton same days by 12 at
night;

5665 From Norfolk Monday, Wednesday, and
Friday, after arrival from Baltimore,
say at 10 a m;
Arrive at Elizabeth City same days by
6 p m;

5666 From Edenton, by Ballard's Bridge, Min-
tonville, Saturday, Gatesville, Buck-
land, Reynolds, and Somerton, Va., to
Suffolk, 71 miles and back, once a
week.
Leave Edenton Thursday at 4 a m;
Arrive at Suffolk next day at 4 p m;
Leave Suffolk Tuesday at 11 a m;
Arrive at Edenton next day at 8 p m.

INSTRUCTIONS.

Form of a proposal where no change from advertise-
ment is contemplated by the bidder.

I, of the county of _____, State
of _____, propose to convey the mails from July
1, 1855, to June 30, 1856, on route No. _____,
from _____ to _____, according to the schedule
of the Postmaster General, dated January
12, 1855, and by the following mode of con-
veyance, viz: _____

This proposal is made with full knowledge of
the distance of the route, the weight of the mail
to be carried, and all other particulars in re-
ference to the route and service, and also after full
examination of the advertisement.

Dated _____ (Signed) _____
The undersigned, residing at _____, State
of _____, undertake that, if the foregoing bid for
carrying the mail on route No. _____ be accepted
by the Postmaster General, the bidder shall, as soon
thereafter as may be entered into the required ap-
plication to perform the service proposed, with
good and sufficient sureties.

This we do with full knowledge of the obliga-
tions and liabilities assumed by contractors under
the 27th section of the act of Congress of
July 2, 1836.

Dated _____ (Signed by two guarantors.) _____
The undersigned, postmaster of _____, State
of _____, certify that the above contractor, who
is acquainted with the above guarantors, and
knows them to be men of property, and able to
make good their guarantee.

Dated _____ (Signed) _____
The sufficiency of guarantors on proposals
may be certified by a judge of a court of record,
and by postmasters at the following offices, and
no others:

In the State of NORTH CAROLINA, postmas-
ters of offices at the court-house or county seat
of each county; and at Chapel Hill, Davidson
College, Raleigh, Fayetteville, Franklinton,
Gaston, Goldsboro', Greensboro', Henderson, Ken-
nansville, Milton, Murfreesboro', Oxford, Salem,
Scotland Neck, Williamson, Yanceyville.

Conditions to be incorporated in the contracts to be
executed the department may deem proper.

1. Seven minutes are allowed to each interme-
diate office, where the mail is to be taken up, or
sorted the mails; but on railroad and steamboat
routes there is to be no more delay than is suf-
ficient for an exchange of the mail bags.

2. On routes where the mode of conveyance
admits of it, the special regulations of the depart-
ment, as to the use of mail bags, locks and keys,
are to be conveyed without extra charge.

3. On railroad and steamboat lines, British
and Canadian mail, and mail to be con-
veyed without additional pay; also, the route
agents of the department, for whose exclusive
use, while travelling with the mails, a commodi-
ous, light, warm, and furnished, and adapted
to the convenient and secure of the mails is to
be provided by the contractor under the direction of the depart-
ment.

4. No pay will be made for trips not performed;
and for each of such omissions not satisfactorily
three times the pay of the trip may be deducted.
For arrivals so far behind time as to break con-
nection with depending mails, and not sufficient-
ly expedient, one-fourth of the compensation of the
trip is subject to forfeiture. Deduction will also
be ordered for a grade of performance inferior
to that specified in the contract. For repeated
delinquencies of the kind herein specified, ex-
tra large penalties, proportioned to the nature
and importance of the mail, may be made.

5. For leaving behind, or throwing off the
mails, or any portion of them, for the admission
of passengers, or for being concerned in setting
up or running up an express conveying commer-
cial intelligence ahead of the mail, a quarter's
pay may be deducted.

6. Fines will be imposed, unless the delin-
quency be promptly and satisfactorily explained
by certificates of postmasters; or the affidavits of
credible persons, for failing to arrive in
contract time; or for neglecting to take the mail
on, or deliver it into, a post office for arriving
it (owing either to the unsuitableness of the
place or manner of carrying it) to be injured,
destroyed, or lost; or for refusing, after de-
mand, to convey the mail as frequently as the
contractor runs, or is concerned in running,
a coach, car, or steamboat, on a route.

7. The Postmaster General may annul
the contract for repeated failures to run
agreedly to contract, for disobeying the
Post Office laws, or the instructions of the
department; for refusing to discharge a
carrier when required by the department
to do so; for assigning the contract with-
out the assent of the Postmaster General
for running an express as aforesaid; or for
transporting persons or packages convey-
ing valuable matter out of the mail.

8. The Postmaster General may order
an increase of service on a route by allow-
ing therefor a *pro rata* increase on the
contract pay. He may change the sched-
ule of arrivals and departures, without
increase of pay, provided he does not cur-

tial the amount of running time. He may
also order an increase of speed, he allow-
ing, within the restrictions of the law, a
pro rata increase of pay for the additional
stock of carriers, if any. The contractor
may, however, in the case of increase of
speed, relinquish the contract by giving
prompt notice to the department that he
prefers doing so to carrying the order into
effect. The Postmaster General may also
curtail or discontinue the service, at *pro*
rata decrease of pay, allowing one month's
extra compensation on the amount dispen-
sed with, whenever, in his opinion, the
public interests do not require the same,
or in case he desires to supersede it by
a different grade of transportation.

9. Payments will be made for the ser-
vice by collections from, or drafts on, post-
masters, or otherwise, after the expiration
of each quarter—say in February, May,
August, and November.

10. The distances are given according
to the best information; but no increase
of pay will be allowed should they be
greater than advertised, if the points to be
served be correctly stated. Bidders must
inform themselves on this point.

11. The Postmaster General is prohib-
ited by law from knowingly making a con-
tract for the transportation of the mails
with any person who shall have entered
into, or proposed to enter into, any com-
bination to prevent the making of any
bid for a small contract by any other
person or persons, or who shall have
made any agreement, or shall have given
or performed, or promised to give or per-
form, any consideration whatever, or to
do, or not to do, anything whatever, in
order to induce any other person or per-
sons not to bid for a mail contract. Par-
ticular attention is called to the 28th sec-
tion of the act of 1836, prohibiting com-
binations to prevent bidding.

12. A bid received after time—viz:
3 p. m. of the 10th of April, 1855—
or without the guarantee required by law,
or that combines several routes in one sum
of compensation, cannot be considered in
competition with a regular proposal reason-
able in amount.

13. Bidders should, in all cases, first
propose for service strictly according to
the advertisement, and then, if they de-
sire *separately* for different service; and if
the regular bid be the lowest offered for
the advertised service, the other bids may
be considered, if the alterations proposed
are recommended by the postmasters and
citizens interested, or if they shall appear
manifestly right and proper.

14. There should be but one route bid
for in a proposal.

15. The route, the service, the yearly
pay, the name and residence of the bidder
and those of each member of a firm, where
a company offers, should be distinctly stated;
also, the mode of conveyance, if a
higher mode than horseback be intended.
The words "with due celerity, certainty,
and security," inserted to indicate the
mode of conveyance, will constitute a
"starbid."

16. Bidders are requested to use, as far
as practicable, the printed form of propo-
sal furnished by the department, to write
out in full the sum of their bids, and to re-
tain copies of them.

No altered bids can be considered, and
no bids once submitted can be withdrawn.
Each bid must be guaranteed by two re-
sponsible persons. General guarantees
cannot be admitted.

17. The bid should be sealed; superscrib-
ed "mail proposals, State of North Car-
olina," addressed "Second Assistant Post-
master General," Contract Office, and sent
by mail, not by, or to, an agent, and
postmasters will not enclose proposals (or
letters of any kind) in their quarterly re-
turns.

18. The contracts are to be executed and
returned to the department by or before
the 1st of July, 1855, but the service
must be commenced on the mail day next
after that date, whether the contracts be
executed or not. No proposition for trans-
fers will be considered until the contracts
are executed in due form and received at
the department; and then no transfers will
be allowed unless good and sufficient rea-
sons therefor are given, to be determined
by the department.

19. Postmasters at offices on or near
railroads, but more than eighty rods from
a station, will, immediately after the 10th
of April next, report their exact distance
from the nearest station, and how they are
otherwise supplied with the mail, to enable
the Postmaster General to direct a mail-
messenger supply from the 1st of July next.

20. Section 15 of an act of Congress
approved March 3, 1845, provides that
contracts for the transportation of the mail
shall be let, "in every case, to the lowest
bidder tendering sufficient guarantees for
faithful performance, without other refer-
ence to the mode of such transportation
than may be necessary to provide for the
due celerity, certainty, and security of
such transportation." Under this law a
new description of bids has been received.
It does not specify a mode of conveyance,
but engages to take the entire mail each
trip with celerity, certainty, and security,
using the terms of the law. These bids
are styled, from the manner in which they
are designated on the books of the depart-
ment, "star bids," and they will be con-
sidered as providing for the entire mail,
however large, and whatever may be the
mode of conveyance necessary to insure its
"celerity, certainty, and security."

In all cases where the lowest grade of
service is believed to be sufficient, the low-
est bid will be accepted, if duly guaranteed,
in preference to a "star" or specific bid.

When the lowest bid is not a star bid,
and specifies either no mode or an inade-
quate mode of conveyance, it will not be
accepted, but set aside for a specific bid
proposing the necessary service.

When the bid does not specify a mode
of conveyance, also when it proposes to
carry "according to the advertisement,"
but without such specification, it will be
considered as a proposal for horseback ser-
vice.

21. A modification of a bid, in any of
its essential terms, is tantamount to a new
bid, and cannot be received, so as to in-
terfere with regular competition, after the
last hour set for receiving bids.

22. Postmasters are to be careful not to
certify the sufficiency of guarantors or su-
reties without knowing that they are per-
sons of sufficient responsibility; and all
bidders, guarantors, and sureties are dis-
tinctly notified that, on a failure to enter
into or perform the contracts for the service
proposed for in the accepted bids, their de-
legal liabilities will be enforced against
them.

23. The contracts will be substantially
in the form heretofore used in this depart-

ment, except in the respects particularly
mentioned in these instructions; and on all
railroad and steamboat routes the contrac-
tors will be required to deliver the mail
into the post offices, at the ends of the
routes and into all the intermediate post
offices not more than eighty rods from the
railroad or landing.

24. Present contractors, and persons
known at the department, must, equally
with others, procure guarantors and cer-
ificates of their sufficiency substantially in
the forms above prescribed. The certifi-
cates of sufficiency must be signed by a
postmaster at one of the places before
named, or a judge of a court of record.

Postmasters at the ends of routes on
which they think the present mode of con-
veyance inadequate, will weigh the mail
each trip for six successive weeks on week-
ly routes, and three weeks on other routes,
and report the result by the 10th April,
1855.

JAMES CAMPBELL,
Postmaster General.

jan 30—12t

GREAT ATTRACTION

IN

DRY GOODS,

READY MADE CLOTHING, &c.

H. CURRIAN, having just returned
from the North with a large stock of
Dry Goods, Groceries, Ready Made Clothing,
&c., offers them for sale on the most accommo-
dating terms.

He respectfully solicits the attention of his
friends and the public generally to his stock of
Dry Goods, consisting of Silks, Worsteds, Calicoes,
Viscetes, Cashmere and Wool Shawls,
Unbleached Cottons, Flannels, Laces, Edgings,
Chemises, under Slaves, Silk, Linen and Cotton
Handkerchiefs, Hose and Half Hose, Gloves, &c.,
also his stock of

READY MADE CLOTHING,
Blue and Black Cloth Coats, Overcoats, Pants,
Vestings, Shirts, Collars, Cravats, Drawers,
Hose, &c.

GROCERIES.

Coffee, Sugar, Molasses, best New Orleans
Sugar, Tea, Rice, Tobacco, Flour, Candles,
Soap, Pepper, Ginger, Mustard, Table Salt, Alu-
mina, Borax, Starch, Powder, Shot and Gun
Caps, yeast Powders, Cloves, Butter Crackers,
Sugar do, Soda do, Pilot Bread, Ship Biscuits,
Shoe Brushes, Nutmegs, Snuff, Lard, Lemon
Syrup, Matches, &c.

BOOKS.

Spelling Books, Copy Books, Table Books,
Arithmetic, Geography, Grammars, Dictiona-
ries, &c. &c. &c. Books of History, Collier's Reader,
Black Books, Writing Paper, Pens, &c.

Hardware, Cutlery, &c.
Knives and Forks, Pocket Knives, Butcher-
do, Files, Hammers, Hatchets, Drawing Knives,
Sawes, Planes, Screws, Licks, Tea Spoon,
Table do, Corvids, Axes, Iron Knives, Metal
do, Braces and Bits, Angers, Chisels, Sand Pa-
per, Screw Drivers, Spades,